

REMARKS

Applicant has cancelled Claims 22-31 without prejudice in response to Examiner's restriction requirement. Applicant has also added claims 32-35. Claims 12-21 and 32-35 are now pending in this application.

In an Office Action dated July 7, 2003, restriction to one of the following inventions was required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

Group I      Claims 12-21

Group II      Claims 22-26

Group III      claims 27-31

Applicants hereby elect Group I (Claims 12-21, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 235, subclass 435) without traverse.

New method claims 32-35 have been added and each of the added method claims is believed to be in Group I. The method claims 32-35 each recite operations performed by a self-checkout terminal. These operations may be implemented by an apparatus in the form of the apparatus of claim 12 (i.e., a self-checkout terminal having a processing unit and a display unit). Consequently, with respect to the apparatus of claims 12-21, it is believed that the methods of claims 32-35 should not be subject to a restriction requirement as a method practiced by a "materially different" apparatus, nor should the apparatus as recited in claims 12-21 be subject to a restriction requirement as an apparatus for "another and materially different process." If the Examiner is not in agreement, the undersigned suggest a brief telephone conference to discuss suitable clarifying language.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to the non-elected subject matter including the right to file one or more continuation and/or divisional applications to that subject matter, as now embraced in non-elected Claims 22-31.

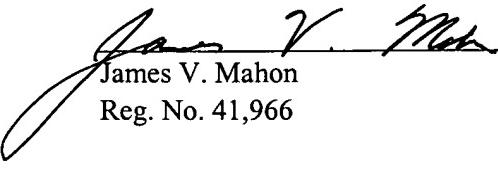
CONCLUSION

Claims 12-21 and claims 32-35 are now pending and believed to be in proper form for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

Sept 4, 2003

  
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